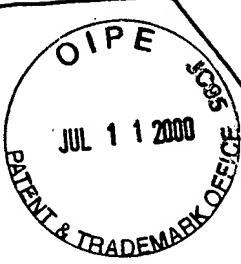


165. A method for making an assay plate for detecting the presence of a mobile oligonucleotide that binds to an immobilized known oligonucleotide, said method comprising the steps of:

covalently binding said known oligonucleotide to a fused silica substrate to immobilize the known oligonucleotide;

washing said substrate to remove any of said known oligonucleotide that fails to bind to said substrate; and

drying said substrate and said bound immobilized oligonucleotide, wherein the drying step is carried out in an atmosphere of nitrogen.



Remarks

Claims 147-165 are copied from U.S. 5,922,534 ('534) for purposes of preserving rights under 35 USC §135. '534 was issued July 13, 1999, and the above claims are hereby copied within one year of issuance.

Support for the copied claims can be found at the following column and line numbers of 6,040,193 (a parent of the present application having the same specification). For example, columns 2 and 3 disclose the general use of the assay plate, the substrate is shown at col. 14, the process of applying and drying the aliquot is shown at cols. 29-30, and other process details are shown at cols. 23-25.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (408) 731-5021.

Respectfully submitted,



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